

Sample Press Release

For Immediate Release
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Rep. _____ praises Bush signature of newborn protection bill

Washington—Congressman Joe Pitts (R, PA-16) praised President Bush today for his signature of the Born-Alive Victims Protection Act. The measure, passed by the House in March and by the Senate in July, will guarantee full legal protections to infants that are born alive, even if their mother intended them for abortion. The President signed the bill this afternoon.

“A child who is born alive should have all the protections of the law, whether she was intended for abortion or not,” said Congressman. “The bill the President signed today is a victory for children and a victory for the principle that life is sacred.”

The Born-Alive Infants Protection Act guarantees that live-born infants are afforded full legal rights under federal law, regardless of their stage of development or whether their births occurred during an attempted abortion.

The bill was first introduced in 2000 following the discovery that a number of “live-birth” abortions had been performed around the country. A registered nurse from Illinois testified before Congress that she witnessed pregnant mothers being prematurely induced to labor and delivering children that were left to die without any medical attention. The hospital in that case defended its actions by saying the newborns were intended for abortion. The original bill was passed by the House but killed in the Senate.

The bill signed today by the President contains language to placate liberals in the Senate who believed the original bill threatened a woman’s liberty to have an abortion at will. It says, “Nothing in this section shall be construed to affirm, deny, expand, or contract any legal right applicable to any member of the species homo sapiens at any point prior to being ‘born alive’ as defined in this section.”

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